

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Public Health Inspector

for the year

1 9 6 9

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Principal Address of Medical Officer of Health:

Area Health Offices, 224, Queensway,

Bletchley, Bucks.

Telephone Number: Bletchley 4701


Local Address:

Public Health Department, Wolverton Urban District Council,

Council Offices, Market Square, Stony Stratford,

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Chairman of the Council: Councillor P. T. Cosford

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor Elsie Wakefield

Councillors: Atter, Cosford, Fennemore, Herring,  
Higby, Lilian M. C. Johnson, Page, Gweneth  
C. Stock and Elsie Wakefield.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: P. LAVIS  
(M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

The Medical Officer of Health is also the M.O.H. for  
Buckingham M.B., and Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C.  
Newport Pagnell R.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C. Winslow  
R.D.C., Area M.O. for North Bucks and Divisional School  
M.O. for the North Bucks Division and Buckingham and  
Winslow District.

Deputy M.O.H.: S. HETHERINGTON  
(M.B., Ch.B., D.F.H.)

Public Health Inspector: D. M. TUCKER  
(M.A.F.H.I.)

Technical Assistant: B. ROWLINSON



## URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

Council Offices,  
Market Square,  
Stony Stratford,  
WOLVERTON,  
Bucks.

2nd July, 1970

Mr. Chairman, Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1969.

The value of an Annual Report is two-fold; to record facts in a prominent form and to highlight any important relevant matter to make the Council, the public or the Department of Health, aware of such a matter. The value of some of the facts therein recorded (in terms of vital statistics, causes of death, notification of infectious diseases) is doubtful, as the numbers involved are too small to indicate trends or any practical local condition. In addition, the accuracy of some of the figures is such that too much should not be concluded from them. More substantial and useful methods are being developed which should prove more informative in the coming years.

The items that need highlighting are simple but of considerable importance. Once again I must emphasise that while we talk of developing a modern city in the area, Calverton still has to wait for one of the features even Romans possessed. Untreated sewerage still trickles along the main road. We still hope this problem will soon be cleared.

Wolverton Urban District Council is placed in a difficult position over the development of Milton Keynes. Much existing old property in the New Bradwell and Wolverton areas will have to be considered for improvement if we are to avoid the serious risk of some of these becoming a slum. The financial implications of this should not deter the body responsible from working towards a way whereby the people living in these properties will not suffer.

In 1965 the Council declared 187 houses in New Bradwell unfit for human habitation and in the same year placed them in the Spencer Street Compulsory Purchase Order. Five years later as this report is written they still remain occupied. It is fervently hoped that the proposed redevelopment of new homes and the emptying of these unfit dwellings will have commenced and be well under way when I next compile my annual report.

During the year a working party was formed consisting of the Health Inspectors in the designated area and your Medical Officers to consider the implications to public health of constructing a major city. A report was produced and presented to the Health Services Liaison Committee, and a meeting was held with a representative of the Development Corporation. This working party will be reconvened when necessary in the future.



I must record a matter that caused your Officers serious concern towards the end of the year and which was duly reported to the Health Committee. An incorrect communication in a supply pipe line contaminated the drinking water of some residents for a lengthy period. This could have had disastrous consequences and we were thankful that we escaped these. Appropriate representations were made by your Council and a close watch will be kept to try to avoid this sort of mistake being made again.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. LAVIS

Medical Officer of Health.

## S E C T I O N   A

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>	for the year	1969	1968
Area (in acres)		4,699	4,699
Population		13,600	13,600
Number of Inhabited Houses		5,104	5,077
Rateable Value (1st April, 1969)		£498,547	£463,995
Sum represented by 1d. Rate (Est. 1969/70)		2,114	1,970
Rate per £1.		13/0d.	12/6d.

### BIRTH

Legitimate (Live):	Males	127	104
	Females	102	106
Illegitimate (Live):	Males	8	4
	Females	2	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (adjusted)		20.9	19.4
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales		16.3	16.9
Still Births		2	1

### DEATH

Males	98	89
Females	82	83
Death Rate per 1,000 Population (adjusted)	11.2	10.8
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales	11.9	11.9

### INFANT MORTALITY RATE

(Death of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)		
Wolverton	Nil	18.0
England and Wales	18.0	18.0

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF  
DEATH

	<u>1 9 6 9</u>			<u>1 9 6 8</u>		
	M	F	T	M	F	T
Cancer:						
Stomach	1	1	2	2	1	3
Lung, Bronchus	8	2	10	3	1	4
Breast	0	4	4	0	2	2
Uterus	0	0	0	0	2	2
Other	11	6	17	11	5	16
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	10	17	12	10	22
Heart Diseases	33	31	64	30	34	64
Other Circulatory Diseases	6	8	14	6	8	14
Pneumonia	10	5	15	2	5	7
Bronchitis	9	1	10	6	2	8
Congenital Anomalies	1	0	1	2	0	2
Other Diseases	11	11	22	12	9	21
Accidents	1	2	3	3	4	7
Suicide	0	1	1	0	0	0
Totals	<u>98</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>172</u>



## S E C T I O N   B

### PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

#### 1. Ambulance Service

(Tel. Bletchley 2565) Administered by Bucks County Council. Main station at Bletchley with sub-stations at Newport Pagnell and Buckingham.

#### 2. Hospitals

Under the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. Patients are generally treated at Northampton. Out patients facilities available at the Meacham Diagnostic Clinic at Wolverton.

#### 3. Laboratory

General Hospital, Northampton (Tel. 34347).

#### 4. District Nurses/Midwives

Area Superintendent Nursing Officer: Mrs. O. M. Riley (at Area Health Office, Bletchley) (Tel. Bletchley 4701)

#### 5. Health Visitors

Superintendent: Mrs. D. L. Marett at Area Health Office, Bletchley. Wolverton: 122, Church Street. (Tel. 2320)

#### 6. Social Workers

(Medical, Welfare, Blind and Mental Health) Area Officer: Mr. F. K. Smith at Area Health Office, Bletchley.

#### 7. Home Help Service

Area Organiser: Mrs. E. N. Franklin. Assistant Organiser: Mrs. P. B. Schorr (Tel. Wolverton 2320).

#### 8. Industrial Unit

Whaddon Way, Bletchley.

#### 9. Child Welfare Clinic

Held regularly at - Scout Hall, Wolverton - Scout Hall, Stony Stratford and 122, Newport Road, New Bradwell. Welfare foods are available at each centre.

#### 10. Dental Clinic

122a, Church Street, Wolverton. Treatment offered to children and expectant mothers. In addition, schools are visited regularly by the dentist.

#### 11. Health Education

Area Organiser: Miss P. Hayward at Area Health Office, Bletchley.

12. School Health Service

Administered from Area Health Office. This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, ascertainment of handicap and arranging for appropriate treatment. The Child Guidance Clinic is situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley. B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is carried out in the schools as well as booster doses of polio, diphtheria and tetanus antigens.

13. Contraception Advice

Weekly clinics held at Whalley Drive Health Clinic, Bletchley by the Family Planning Association (by appointment Tel. Bletchley 2285). It is likely a clinic will be opened in Wolverton during 1970.

14. Cervical Cytology ("Smear" Test)

Carried out by family doctors and at Meacham Clinic (Tel. Bletchley 4701 for appointment).

15. Marriage Guidance Council

Whalley Drive Health Clinic, Bletchley (by appointment Tel. Soulbury 252).

16. Children's Department

Area Child Care Officer: Miss J. M. Walker (Tel. Bletchley 4701).

## S E C T I O N   C

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications with comparative figures for 1968

	1969	1968
Scarlet Fever	3	5
Measles	37	186
Whooping Cough	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	42	10

#### Tuberculosis

Three cases were notified during the year.

#### Influenza

An outbreak of a Hongkong variant reached epidemic proportions during the second week of December. Symptoms were generally classical, affecting especially the adult section of the population.



## S E C T I O N   D

### HOUSING   ACTS

#### HOUSING

Improvement areas are likely to play an important part in the task of maintaining an adequate housing stock of reasonable standard. The impetus of demolition and clearance of unfit dwellings will slow and greater emphasis paid to the modernisation of dwellings and the improvements of the environment in which they stand.

As I pointed out to the Council last year, an increase in the housing stock of a community ensures that there is greater availability of accommodation suitable for the needs of all. Every method of achieving this desirable and worthwhile objective will have to be explored. Consideration will be given to the question of the widened use of grants, loans, mortgages, and planning services. The interest of the house owner and occupier must be captured and due attention given to their wishes and aspirations. None can doubt that as we enter the latter part of this century that the provision of adequate housing of good standard and in a reasonable environment, will remove a problem that has bedevilled the community for generations.



## S E C T I O N    E

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

#### 1. Water

Water is supplied and distributed by the Bucks Water Board. The Medical Officer has referred to the unfortunate occurrence concerning the connection of certain dwellings to a fire main.

#### 2. Public Cleansing

The Council are aware of the difficulties which have been experienced.

#### 3. Sewage & Sewerage Disposal

Another year has passed and still Calverton remains without sewers.

The Medical Officer has made his comments and I endorse all that he has written. Complaints are received and in dealing with them the advice or instruction given is at best a "stop-gap" remedy. The provision of a proper sewage disposal system must be a matter of utmost priority.

#### 4. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The statutory report has been forwarded to the Ministry of Labour.

#### 5. Clean Air Acts

The increasing development by Milton Keynes Development Corporation will require vigilance both in regard to chimney heights and industrial processes. In particular aesthetic consideration of planning should not take precedence over the necessity to ensure that every chimney and flue is of a height to ensure the adequate and safe dispersal of fumes.

The Clean Air Act, 1968 has assisted greatly in bringing to an end the burning in the open of waste materials. This particular environmental health problem was of great concern in previous years.

## S E C T I O N   F

### FOOD   HYGIENE

#### General

The work done by food handlers is important but it appears to me that this importance is not generally recognised by the handler.

There is far too much careless handling of food. Too often one sees fingers licked and then wrapping paper picked up, cooked foods and confectionery handled instead of protective paper or tongs being used. Overalls are not changed with a frequency that should be self evident. Where these matters are seen, appropriate action is taken but the best incentive to cleanliness is the retention of customers.

The general public should refuse to shop where such offences occur and when staying away, tell the owner or manager why they are doing so.

#### Bacteriological Sampling

A total of 65 samples of food were submitted for bacteriological examination of which none were reported as being unsatisfactory.

#### Food Premises

We have been asked by the Department of Health and Social Security to supply the following information.

The number of premises covered by the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations are as follows:-

Bakers	-	7
Butchers	-	15
Canteens	-	10
Confectionery	-	13
Fishmongers	-	4
Fishmonger/Greengrocer	-	3
Food Factory	-	1
Green Grocers	-	10
Grocers	-	38
Public Houses	-	22
Restaurants	-	7



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details are given below of the type of foods voluntarily surrendered for destruction:-

Apricots	5 tins	Loganberries	11 tins
Apricot Rice Dessert	1 tin	Luncheon Meat	1 tin
Baked Beans	19 tins	Milk Puddings	3 tins
Beans in Tomatoes	7 "	Minced Steak	2 tins
Beefburgers	3 pkts.	Mixed Vegetable Soup	2 "
Beef (Boned)	5½ lbs.	Mousse	15 pkts.
Bournvita	5 tins	Mussels	77 jars
Broad Beans	5 pkts.	Orange Peel Marmalade	1 jar
Brussel Sprouts	3 "	Pal	1 tin
Butter Beans	1 pkt.	Peaches	5 tins
Butter	1½ lbs.	Pears	12 tins
Canned Beef	4 tins	Pear Halves	1 tin
Canned Ham	4 "	Pilchards	14 tins
Carrotts	2 "	Pineapple Dessert	1 tin
Cheese	1 pkt.	Pineapple Pieces	17 tins
Cherries	10 tins	Plaice Fillets	3 pkts.
Chicken Portions	16 pkts.	Preserving Sugar	3 boxes.
Chicken Soup	1 tin	Process Peas	86 tins
Chips	13 pkts.	Puff Pastry	2 pkts.
Cod Filletts	3 "	Pure Cream	2 tins
Cod Portions	5 "	Raspberries	18 tins
Cornflakes	2 boxes	Red Salmon	2 "
Cream	2 tins	Rice	2 "
Cream of mushroom soup	1 tin	Runner Beans	23 pkts.
Cream of vegetable soup	1 tin	Sago Pudding	2 tins
Dairy Cream	1 tin	Salmon	1 tin
Damsons	2 tins	Sardines	3 tins
Egg custard with rice	1 tin	Sliced Beans	2 pkts.
Evaporated Milk	4 tins	Sliced Cheese	1 pkt.
Faggots	28 pkts.	Sliced Peaches	24 tins
Figs	2 pkts.	Shoulder of Ham	10 lbs. 8 oz.
Fish Cakes	1 pkt.	Shredded Wheat	1 pkt
Fish Fingers	69 pkts.	Spaghetti	1 tin
Fore-End Bacon	130 lbs.	Steak	2 tins
Fruit Cocktail	1 tin	Steakburgers	6 pkts.
Fruit Salad	6 tins	Steak in Gravy	3 tins
Garden Peas	8 tins	Stewed steak	1 tin
Grapefruit	1 tin	Strawberries	3 tins
Green Pea Soup	3 tins	Tapioca	1 tin
Ham & Chicken Roll	1 tin	Tomatoes	34 tins
Hock	1 tin	Tomato Soup	2 "
Jellied Veal	4 lbs.	Tongue	23 tins
Juice	1 bottle	Vegetable Salad	1 tin
Kipper Snacks	23 pkts.	Vegetable Soup	10 tins
Lard	1 lb.	Vol Au Vents	6 pkts.
Lemon Curd	1 tin	Christmas Puddings	43 pkts.

Again much of this food is condemned because of container damage.

# SECTION G

## PREScribed PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	6	1	-
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	26	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- worker's premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	56	32	1	-



Number of cases in which defects  
were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ventilation that is inadequate (S.4)	1	1	-	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	1	1	-	1	-

